



Town of Camden Select Board Meeting July 2, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Chairperson Martin Cates, John French, Jr., James Heard, Leonard Lookner, Donald White, and Town Manager Finnigan. Also present were members of the press and public.

A. Call to Order

B. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

Fire Chief Updates

Fire Chief Chris Farley told the Board that the Knox County Communication Center will begin testing its radio system on July 8, and that hopefully the system will be live by the middle of the month. He also said that the extrication equipment was delivered last week. Chief Farley reported on the recent Run For Your Life event at the Snow Bowl. He said that while was a fundraiser, it was also an opportunity to have the EMS providers work together and it served as a recruitment event.

The Board asked Farley about the lightning strike on Ragged Mountain that had knocked systems off-line for approximately four hours the previous Friday night and periodically the following Saturday. Farley described the situation and noted the system has been degrading.

Leonard Lookner brought up the current transition to the new EMS provider. Pat Finnigan said the transition to North East Mobile Health is complete as of July 1. Farley told the Board that four people from the North East Mobile Health Services leadership team had come to the public safety building to meet with Camden's public safety staff and that it was a very positive meeting. The Chief said he has no concerns about the quality of service that the company will provide to the Town and its residents.

C. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments so the Chair opened the floor to comments from the Board.

Don White talked about the upcoming July 4th celebration, saying that there would be Music By the Sea sponsored by Camden Rotary and Bay Chamber Concerts, and that fireworks would begin at 9pm.

White spoke about the circus that would be held at the Snow Bowl on July 13th and 14th, noting also that chairlift rides would take place on July 21st.

James Heard, liaison to the Ragged Mountain Redevelopment Committee, called George Mueller up who spoke briefly about the current redevelopment campaign. Mueller said they have are above \$3.8 million of their \$4.5 million goal, noting that there is excitement at this stage of a capital campaign but that there is still work to do.

There were no further Board comments.

D. Approval of Select Board Minutes: Minutes of June 18, 2013

Donald White made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18, 2013. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

E. Select Board Member Reports

Don White reported that the Planning Board had addressed two zoning changes that have been under discussion, the first being Mount Battie St. He said that this proposal is still being considered. The second proposed change, a requested zoning change on High Street, was discussed at length at the meeting. White said that citizens had offered comments both pro and con. White said that with a 2-2 vote, the measure did not pass.

Next White reported on the Camden Public Library Trustees meeting where they had discussed the event planned for July 13th to commemorate the designation of the amphitheater as a national historic landmark.

White reported that the Midcoast Transit Committee had held two public outreach meetings and that there had been good feedback from the public on the continuing study.

Five Town Communities That Care had sponsored a seminar on teen addictions which White had attended, and he also reported on progress of the Gateway One Coalition.

There were no further Board comments.

F. Town Manager Report

Pat Finnigan told the group that the Town had entered its new fiscal year. She updated the Board on the state Revenue-Sharing situation, saying that while we had expected to receive \$300,000 from the State as in the past, we will now be receiving \$183,000. She said the Town budget had been reduced in anticipation of the reduction.

Finnigan said that Town departments are in full swing for the busy summer season, that the police department, Public Works and the fire department are prepared for upcoming events.

Finnigan told the Board that the fire department had made progress on its goal of decreasing the average age of responders. In 2008, the average age of firefighters was 48; now the average age is 41. She noted that five firefighters are currently participating in the Knox County Fire Training Academy. She commended the community outreach that the fire Department does.

G. New Business

1. Northern Border Regional Commission Grant – Ragged Mountain Redevelopment

Camden's Development Director Brian Hodges spoke to the Board about a Northern Border Regional Commission RMRA grant opportunity. The goal of the Northern Border Regional Commission, he said, is to alleviate economic distress and create job opportunities. Hodges said that the Commission has released a federal grant opportunity appropriate for the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Redevelopment. He reported that this is a \$1.2 million program with a maximum award per applicant of \$200,000. Among Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York, 1-2 awards will be granted per state. Hodges also noted that Camden's participation with the Mid Coast Economic Development District (MCEDD) will help its status with regard to this grant. Currently, the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Redevelopment ranked first in the Mid Coast region on MCEDD's list of prioritizing projects as having the greatest regional impact.

Grant applications for the Northern Border Regional Commission RMRA grant are due July 15th. Hodges proposed that Camden submit an application for the maximum award of \$200,000.

Leonard Lookner asked if a grant of this size could impact another community more than Camden. Hodges described how the Ragged Mountain Redevelopment project has a significant impact on the entire midcoast region, serving a need for which Camden doesn't have the funds on hand to meet. Hodges noted that others outside of our town have determined that this project has merit regionally.

James Heard asked how the funds, if received, would be applied. Hodges told the Board that he would recommend applying the \$200,000 toward the \$4.5 million portion of the campaign.

Lookner commented that Camden has shouldered the burden of the cost of operation for the Ragged Mountain facility for many years and noted that the facility does benefit the entire region in many ways.

Donald White made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to submit a grant application for the amount of \$200,000 to the Northern Border Regional Commission for the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Redevelopment project. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

2. Review and approval of the FY14 Snow Bowl Budget

Beth Ward and Fitzy Fitzcharles spoke to the Board about the FY 14 Snow Bowl budget. Ward described programs held at the Snow Bowl this year, including the fourth grade learn to ski program which involves all Knox County schools and reaches into Waldo County as well. She said that this year 458 students from 13 different schools had come to the Snow Bowl three times to participate in lessons, with complementary tickets and rentals.

Ward also described adaptive skiing activities offered at the Snow Bowl, as well programs with the Children's Burn Foundation benefiting 16 children from around New England.

Board members commented on the amazing array of activities and programs offered at the Snow Bowl. There was some discussion on credit card fees as well as discounts for residents, and ticket rates. The Board asked some questions on the projected budget that Ward answered.

Donald White made a motion to approve the proposed Snow Bowl Budget in the amount of \$673,031. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

3. Review and Award Bid for a Walker Mower for the Parks and Recreation Department

Fitzy Fitzcharles, Snow Bowl Operations Manager, presented information on the new mower proposed to replace a mower that has been used by Parks and Recreation for five years.

Leonard Lookner made a motion to award the bid for a Walker mower to Union Farm Equipment for \$8,987. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

4. Review and Award bid for the Melvin Heights Culvert Replacement Project

Pat Finnigan described the culvert project on Melvin Heights where public works needs to replace a culvert that has failed. She said that bids from three companies have been received with the lowest being from Jake Barbour.

Leonard Lookner said he felt the size of the proposed culvert is too large and that the increased volume of water would be substantial.

James Heard said he feels it is important to trust the staff when they bring items forward to the Board.

Finnigan noted that when there are questions on items, if she's notified in advance it is possible to have individuals on hand who can answer specific questions about proposed projects. She said it would be possible to wait until the next meeting pending more information from Public Works.

Donald White made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

5. Authorize payment of the FY 14 Knox County Tax Assessment and Communications Center Fees

Donald White made a motion authorize the payment to Knox County for FY 14 taxes in the amount of \$1,095,145.11 and Communications Center fees in the amount of \$122,442 by September 1, 2013 Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

4. Appointments of members to the following committees:

a) Camden Conservation Commission

Reappoint Douglas N. Johnson as a regular member with a term to expire June 2016

b) Cemetery Association

Reappoint Isa Babb and Parker Laite Sr as regular members with terms to expire June 2016.

c) Camden Housing Committee

Reappoint Joanne Campbell and Dana Strout as regular members with terms to expire June 2016.

d) Camden Rockport Pathways Committee

Reappoint Anita Brosius-Scott and Richard Stetson as regular members with terms to expire June 2106; and reappoint Jane Self as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

e) Community and Economic Development Advisory Committee

Reappoint Ellis Cohn, Deb Dodge, and Meg Quijano as regular members with terms to expire June 2016; and appoint Peter Gross as alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

f) Harbor Committee

Reappoint Richard Stetson and Ben Ellison as regular members with terms to expire June 2016; and reappoint Ben Cashen and Stephen Gold as alternate members with terms to expire June 2014.

g) Historic Resources Committee

Reappoint Meg Barclay and Patricia Skaling as regular members with terms to expire June 2016; reappoint Susan Snead and Abigail Fitzgerald as alternate members with terms to expire June 2014; and appoint Kristin Mikkelsen as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

h) Megunticook Dams Committee

Reappoint Rick Knowlton and Ed Libby as regular members with terms to expire June 2014; and reappoint Richard Stetson as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

i) Opera House Committee

Re-appoint Susan Dorr and Raymond Brunyanski as a regular members with terms to expire June 2016; reappoint Judy Godwin and as alternate member with a term to expire June 2014; and appoint Mark Rattner as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

j) Parks & Recreation Committee

Reappoint Peter Brown and Brian Robinson as regular members with terms to expire June 2016; and reappoint Casey Heard and Peter Conover as alternate members with terms to expire June 2014.

k) Planning Board

Reappoint Lowrie Sargent with a term to expire June 2018; appoint John Scholz as a regular member with a term to expire June 2014; and appoint Richard Bernhard and Kim Tuttle as alternate members with terms to expire June 2014.

l) Zoning Board of Appeals

Reappoint Jean Belair and Linda Norton as regular members with terms to expire June 2016; and appoint Ed Libby as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2014.

Leonard Lookner made a motion to appoint members to the Town Committees as listed. Martin Cates seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

5. Appointment of Select Board Members to Town Committees

a) Endowment Fund Committee

Donald White made a motion to appoint the Select Board as the Endowment Fund Committee. Martin Cates seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

b) Trust Fund Advisory Committee

James Heard made a motion to appoint John French and Leonard Lookner to the Trust Fund Advisory Committee. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

6. Assignment of Select Board Liaisons to the Town Committees and Boards

Board of Assessment Review: Martin Cates

Camden-Rockport Interlocal Sewer Agreement Committee: John French and Leonard Lookner

Camden-Rockport Pathways: Leonard Lookner

Cemetery Association: Don White

Community Economic Development Committee: Martin Cates

Conservation Commission: John French

Harbor Committee: Jim Heard

Historic Resources: Donald White

Housing Committee: Jim Heard

Megunticook Dams Committee: Martin Cates

Opera House Committee: Donald White

Parks & Recreation Committee: Jim Heard

Planning Board: Donald White

Zoning Board of Appeals: Leonard Lookner

Donald White made a motion to appoint the Select Board members as liaisons as listed. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

7. Consideration of the following Victualer's and Lodging License renewals:

- a. Stuart Smith, d/b/a One Bay View Landing Restaurant (**Fresh**) at 1 Bay View Landing for renewal victualer license
- b. JoAnne Ball & William Fontana, d/b/a **A Little Dream** at 60 High Street for a renewal victualer & lodging license

- c. Marlene Freilich, d/b/a **High Tide Inn** at 505 Belfast Road for a renewal victualer & lodging license
- d. Meg Sideris, d/b/a/ **High Mountain Hall** at 5 Mountain Street for a renewal victualer license
- e. Christopher Cousins, d/b/a **Cuzzy's** at 21 Bay View Street for a renewal victualer license
- f. Richard Ellis, d/b/a **Towne Motel** at 68 Elm Street for a renewal victualer and lodging license
- g. Sondra Hamilton, d/b/a **Zoot Coffee** at 31 Elm Street for a renewal victualer license

Anna Sideris spoke to the Board about the activities held at High Mountain Hall.

Donald White made a motion to approve the victualer's and lodging License renewals a) through g) as listed. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

8. **Public Hearings:** Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor Licenses; Special Amusement Permits

Chairperson Cates opened a Public Hearing.

- a. **High Mountain Hall**, LLC at 5 Mountain Street for a Class I Restaurant/Lounge Liquor License

John French made a motion to approve the Class I Restaurant/Lounge Liquor License for High Mountain Hall. The motion was seconded by James Heard. It was unanimously approved.

- b. **High Mountain Hall**, LLC at 5 Mountain Street for a Special Amusement Permit

Donald White made a motion to approve the Special Amusement Permit for High Mountain Hall. The motion was seconded by James Heard. It was unanimously approved.

- c. **Cuzzy's** at 21 Bay View Street for a Class XI Restaurant/Lounge Liquor License

Leonard Lookner made a motion to approve the Class XI Restaurant/Lounge Liquor License for Cuzzy's at 21 Bay View Street. The motion was seconded by James Heard. It was unanimously approved.

- d. **Cuzzy's** at 21 Bay View Street for a Special Amusement Permit

Police chief Randy Gagne reported to the Board that dialogue with Cuzzy's is excellent, that the number of noise complaint has been very low, and that he has no objection to renewing their permit.

Donald White made a motion to approve the Special Amusement Permit for Cuzzy's at 21 Bay View Street. The motion was seconded by James Heard. It was unanimously approved.

- e. **Blue Harbor House Inn** at 67 Elm Street for a Class V Bed & Breakfast Liquor License

Donald White made a motion to approve the Class V Bed & Breakfast Liquor License for Blue Harbor House Inn at 67 Elm Street. The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved.

I. Select Board Closing Comments

Lookner commented that he felt it is the Select Board's responsibility to research and examine matters fully as representatives of the community. Heard commented that more detailed information can be requested prior to a Board meeting so that all the facts are present when needed.

Adjourn

Donald White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved and the Board adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brace
Recording Secretary